## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

MESA AIR GROUP, INC., et al.,

Debtors.<sup>1</sup>

Chapter 11

Case No. 10-10018 (MG)

(Jointly Administered)

## STIPULATION, AGREEMENT, AND ORDER

(I) GRANTING BRENDA HILDERBRAND INDIVIDUALLY, ON BEHALF OF THE HEIRS OF WALTER HILDERBRAND AND AS EXECUTRIX OF THE ESTATE OF WALTER HILDERBRAND, RELIEF FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY TO PURSUE HER CLAIMS AGAINST THE DEBTORS AND RECOVER SOLELY FROM AVAILABLE INSURANCE PROCEEDS; (II) WAIVING ALL CLAIMS AGAINST THE DEBTORS AND THEIR ESTATES; AND (III) GRANTING RELATED RELIEF

On this 28th day of May, 2010, this Stipulation, Agreement, and Order (I) Granting Brenda Hilderbrand individually, on behalf of the heirs of Walter Hilderbrand and as Executrix of the Estate of Walter Hilderbrand (collectively, "Hilderbrand") Relief From the Automatic Stay to Pursue Her Causes of Action Against the Debtors and Recover Solely From Available Insurance Proceeds; and (II) Waiving All Claims Against the Debtors and Their Estates (the "Stipulation") is entered into by and between Mesa Air Group, Inc. ("Mesa") and certain of its direct and indirect subsidiaries in the above-captioned chapter 11 cases, as debtors and debtors-in-possession (collectively, the "Debtors"), and Hilderbrand as petitioner (the "Petitioner," together with the Debtors, the "Parties"). The Parties respectfully state as follows:

1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Debtors are: Mesa Air Group, Inc. (2351); Mesa Air New York, Inc. (3457); Mesa In-Flight, Inc. (9110); Freedom Airlines, Inc. (9364); Mesa Airlines, Inc. (4800); MPD, Inc. (7849); Ritz Hotel Management Corp. (7688); Regional Aircraft Services, Inc. (1911); Air Midwest, Inc. (6610); Mesa Air Group Airline Inventory Management, LLC (2015); Nilchi, Inc. (5531); and Patar, Inc. (1653).

## **RECITALS**

- A. On January 5, 2010 (the "Petition Date"), the Debtors commenced their reorganization cases by filing voluntary petitions for relief under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.* (the "Bankruptcy Code"), in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the "Court").
- B. The Debtors continue to operate their businesses and manage their assets as debtors-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- C. Prior to the Petition Date, the Petitioner commenced an action styled *Brenda Hilderbrand*, as Administrator of the Estate of Walter Hilderbrand, Deceased, and Individually, and on behalf of the heirs of Walter Hilderbrand, Deceased v. Kansas Air Center, Inc., City Of Manhattan, Kansas, Mesa Air Group, Inc., Air Midwest Inc., Mesa Airlines, Inc., James Lehman, M.D., Joseph G. Schlageck, M.D., Micheal Logan, and Chris Hundven, Case No. 08 CV 262, in the District Court of Riley County, Kansas, Division 3 (the "Litigation") asserting claims (the "Claims") against the Debtors, among other defendants, with respect to certain alleged actions or inactions that occurred prior to the Petition Date.
- D. The Litigation was stayed against the Debtors by reason of the automatic stay imposed by Bankruptcy Code section 362(a).
- E. On or about May 18, 2010, Petitioner filed a proof of claim against Mesa Air Group, Inc., *et al.*, in the amount of \$2,410,058.88 (the "Proof of Claim").
- F. Pursuant to this Stipulation, Petitioner is willing to withdraw the Proof of Claim and waive any and all Claims against the Debtors and agrees to seek recovery solely from the insurance coverage, if any, available under one or more insurance policies issued to the Debtors to satisfy the Claims (the "Available Coverage").

G. The Debtors are willing to consent to modification of the automatic stay of section 362(a) of the Bankruptcy Code to permit the Litigation to move forward, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** upon the mutual promises, covenants, and agreements set forth herein, and for other good and variable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereto, intending to be legally bound hereby, agree as follows:

## **AGREEMENT**

- 1. The Debtors consent to the entry of an order modifying the automatic stay under Bankruptcy Code section 362(a) to permit the Petitioner to proceed with the Claims to final judgment or settlement provided that the Petitioner limits any recovery on the Claims (whether by settlement, judgment, or otherwise) to the proceeds of Available Coverage, if any; *provided*, *however*, that any final judgment or settlement shall be reduced only by any share of liability under the applicable insurance policy of any insolvent or non-performing insurer or co-insurer (or any reinsurer of any insolvent or non-performing insurer or co-insurer).
- 2. The automatic stay is further modified to the limited extent necessary to permit the Debtors' insurers to pay defense costs related to, and any settlement of or judgment upon the Claims, in accordance with the terms of the applicable insurance policy, if any, but only to the extent that the automatic stay has been modified with respect to such Claims, and subject to all respective rights, remedies, defenses, cross claims, counter claims or any other requests for relief of (a) any insurer or (b) the Petitioner, any and all of which are expressly reserved and preserved pursuant to this Stipulation.
- 3. It is expressly understood by the Petitioner that: (a) the automatic stay is hereby modified solely with respect to the Claims; (b) the Petitioner may seek satisfaction of the Claims

only as set forth herein; (c) in no event will the Debtors or their estates be liable to the Petitioner with respect to the Claims; and (d) nothing contained in this Stipulation shall operate as a waiver or modification of the automatic stay so as to permit the prosecution against any of the Debtors of any claim or claims by anyone other than the Petitioner except as set forth herein.

- 4. In connection with this modification of the automatic stay, the Petitioner on behalf of himself, her heirs, representatives and assigns, hereby fully, finally and forever waives, releases and/or discharges the Debtors, their estates, and their respective heirs, successors, assigns, affiliates, officers, directors, shareholders, associates, parents, subsidiaries, predecessors, successors, employees, attorneys and agents from the Claims and from all related actions, causes of action, suits, debts, obligations, liabilities, accounts, damages, defenses, or demands whatsoever, known or unknown, that arise from the Claims, except to the extent of the Available Coverage and hereby withdraws the Proof of Claim.
- 5. The agreement by the Debtors to the modification of the automatic stay on the terms and conditions set forth herein shall not be deemed an agreement by the Debtors to provide assistance to or to cooperate with the Petitioner in any way in the efforts of the Petitioner to prosecute the Claims or secure payment on the Claims under the Available Coverage.
- 6. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed an admission of liability or otherwise on the part of the Debtors or their insurance carriers with respect to the Claims.
- 7. Nothing in this Stipulation shall be deemed or construed to change, impact, impair, affect, determine, release, waive, modify, limit or expand: (i) the terms and conditions of any insurance policy or related agreement; (ii) any of the rights, remedies, defenses to coverage and other defenses of any insurer under or in respect of any insurance policy or related agreement (including the right of any insurer to disclaim coverage or of the Petitioner to contest

or oppose such disclaimer); or (iii) any claim or payment right of any insurer against any of the Debtors including, but not limited to, any claim or payment right for, on account of, arising from or related to any premium, deductible, reimbursement or otherwise. All such rights, remedies, defenses, defenses to coverage, claims and payment rights, and Petitioner's rights to contest such rights, remedies, defenses to coverage, claims and payment rights, are expressly reserved and preserved. Further, all rights of subrogation and contribution also are expressly reserved and preserved.

- 8. The modification of the automatic stay as set forth herein shall have no effect as to entities that are not Parties to this Stipulation, and the automatic stay shall remain in full force and effect with respect to such entities and their claims or causes of action, if any, against the Debtors and their estates.
- 9. Neither this Stipulation, nor any terms contained herein shall be offered or received in evidence or in any way referred to in any legal action or administrative proceeding among or between the Parties, other than as may be necessary: (a) to obtain approval of and to enforce this Stipulation; (b) to seek damages or injunctive relief in connection therewith; or (c) to prove that the automatic stay has been modified to allow prosecution of the Claims in accordance with the terms hereof.
- 10. Nothing in this Stipulation shall be construed as an admission or acknowledgement by the Debtors of liability to the Petitioner or the availability of insurance proceeds from Available Coverage.
- 11. This Stipulation may be executed in multiple counterparts, any of which may be transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail, and each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

12. This Stipulation and all the provisions hereof shall be binding upon and shall

inure to the benefit of all the Parties, and each of their respective executors, heirs, successors and

assigns.

13. This Stipulation constitutes the entire agreement among the Parties concerning the

subject matter hereof and supersedes any prior understandings, agreements or representations by

or among the Parties, written or oral, to the extent they relate in any way to the subject matter

hereof.

14. Each of the undersigned counsel represents that he/she is authorized to execute

this Stipulation on behalf of his/her respective client.

15. This Stipulation shall not be modified, altered, amended or vacated without

written consent of all parties hereto, subject to Court approval.

16. The Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to any disputes arising from or

other actions to interpret, administer or enforce the terms and provisions of this Stipulation.

Dated: New York, New York May 28, 2010

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

Attorneys for Mesa Air Group, Inc., et al.

Debtors and Debtors-in-Possession

TARTER KRINSKY & DROGIN LLP

Attorneys for Brenda Hilderbrand

Petitioner

By: /s/ John Lucas

Debra I. Grassgreen

John W. Lucas

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**SO ORDERED** this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June 2010

Scott S. Markowitz

By: /s/ Ira R. Abel

Ira R. Abel

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/s/ Martin Glenn

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE